of wool/hair thereon

(e) leather finishing auxiliaries filler, penetrators and slip agents

(f) Pickled hides, skins, where the value of hides and skins is more than that of wool/ hair thereon

(g) Pickled hides, skins, pelts, splits and parts thereof

(h) Wattle Extract

(i) Wet Blue Chrome tanned crust and finished leather including splits and sides.

For import of goods other than capital goods, the earlier exemption from the requirement of cash margin upto 10% actual export realisation from the General Currency Area during the previous according Year subject to a Maximum of Rs.2.5. crores in a year available to manufacturer exporters of finished leather/leather products has been enhanced to 20% with a monetary ceiling of Rs. 5 crores in a year provided there are no export bills outstanding beyond six months from the date of export.

(d) The above steps will provide easier access to some of the essential inputs used by the leather industry and hence enhance its competitiveness.

[Translation]

Inclusion of Roads in National Highway Grid in Bihar

7122. SHRI UPENDRA NATH VERMA: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether any roads have been included in the National Highway grid in Bihar since 1974; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and if not the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER) (a) No, Sir.

(b) The State Roads are included in the National Highway grid not on the basis of any regional or State-wise considerations, but keeping in view the various priorities and requirements vis-a-vis availability of funds, recommendations made by the National Transport Policy committee, *inter-se* priority attached to each individual road on an all-India basis, fulfilment of prescribed criteria for new National Highways etc.

Repair of Border Roads in Arunachal Pradesh

7123. SHRI ANAND RATNA MAURYA: will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the pace of repair work of border roads in Arunachal Pradesh has accelerated during the last three years;

(b) if so, the total amount spent on the repair of roads in this area during the above period, year-wise; and

(c) the steps taken or proposed to be taken to further speed up the repair work of border roads in Arunachal Pradesh?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE(SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The year-wise expenditure for the last three years is as under: